



The Pileup

Newsletter of the CDXA

SEDCO III is a Wrap

By John Scott, K8YC

It took three tries, but I finally made it to SEDCO. I now know why SEDCO has been so well received. For those of us who find it a long trek to Visalia, we might well think of SEDCO as the “Visalia of the East” and put it on our calendars for next year. CDXA was well represented both in its attendance in the forums and in its participation by spouses. It was great meeting a few CDXA members who I’d only met via email—such as Ron Tingle (K4ML) of Waynesville.

For those who haven’t followed SEDCO since its inception, it is scheduled on the same weekend as the Ten-Tec hamfest—usually the last weekend in September. On the way over to Pigeon Forge on Friday, I put my 2m rig on the Mount Mitchell repeater and had a chat with a few hams that were wending their way over the I-40 pass into Tennessee. My XYL, Barb, accompanied me, and of course, I just “had” to stop at Ten-Tec while coming into town on US 411. A quick look at the Ten-Tec gear on display and a stop at the parts desk to pick up a few dial bulbs for my Centurion linear amp, and we were on our

W4VHF	Ted Goldthorpe	President
N4HN	Thomas Wright	Vice-Pres.
W3ZL	Cliff Wagoner	Sec.-Treas.
K4MD	Joe Simpkins	Cluster Mgr.
W3OA	Dick Williams	Contest Mgr.
W3GQ	Paul Sturpe	Cluster Mgr.- North Area
WB4BXW	Wayne Setzer	Webmaster
K8YC	John Scott	Editor

way to Mainstay Suites—site of the conference on Saturday afternoon.

At Mainstay Suites, we soon ran into lots of folks arriving for the SEDCO conference, not the least of which were a number of other CDXA couples with whom we were to share Friday evening at the “Black Bear Jamboree”—a dinner and a great musical review. Pictured below is our souvenir photo of our “entrance” to the Jamboree dining room. Following the Jamboree, Ted and Itice Goldthorpe held a hospitality suite in their room to wind up the evening.

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CDXA PacketCluster & Other Communication Systems		
W4DXA (11 mi. NE of Mooresville)	144.93 MHz (1200 bits/second)	441.00 MHz (9600 bits/second)
K4MD Charlotte, NC	144.91 MHz (1200 bits/second)	Not Available on 9600 bits/second
NG4DX (Digi near Galax, VA)	144.95 MHz (1200 bits/second) Connect to NG4DX, then type “C W4DXA”	
K4MD (AR Cluster via Telnet)	k4md.no-ip.com	
CDXA Repeater 147.18 MHz (+600)	W4DXA, Near Fort Mill, SC	
Echolink Interconnect to CDXA Rptr.	Login to K4DXA -R	
World Wide Web Homepage	www.cdxa.org	
Wednesday Luncheon (11:30 AM)	Murphy’s Food and Spirits, 131 E. Woodlawn Road, Charlotte, NC	



CDXA Members and XYLs get ready to eat and watch the show at the "Black Bear Jamboree".

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Saturday morning, all were off to Ten-Tec to take in the hamfest. President Goldthorpe had all his questions answered about the Omni VII and its remote control possibilities, and I finally bought one of those 30 foot tall fiberglass military "towers" to use at field day. There were plenty of booths in the flea market area to keep us busy until we had to leave for the SEDCO conference.

On Saturday morning, the XYLs assembled to go shopping. At 1:00PM on Saturday, the rest of us assembled for the beginning of the SEDCO conference. A number of different groups were asked to stand to identify themselves, and I am happy to report that CDXA was well represented by about 20+ members. Dave Anderson, K4SV, kicked things off with a great presentation on

"Building your DX and Contesting station on a Budget." Dave had a bunch of great ideas—not the least of which was a neat way to build your own lightning protection system using Metal Oxide Varistors (MOVs) at \$.37 apiece and a barrier strip. It sure beats buying Polyphasers at over \$60.00 a pop unless you like the appearance of neat little machined aluminum boxes. Those who missed Joe Blackwell's presentation about BS7H in Charlotte got a pictorial presentation on what it's like to sit on a rock in the middle of the South China Sea operating a radio. Harold Kennedy, N4GG, filled us in on the dangers of not having intimate knowledge of your host's station when choosing an international site for a contest. John Laney, K4BAI, provided us a view of the World Radiosport Team Competition held in Florianopolis Brazil.

Oh, yes, there were others too. Herman Cone (N4CH) give us all some insight into DXing on 60 meters, Willard Sitton (W4HZD) provided a stirring talk on how to get youth active in amateur radio, and Scott Robbins (W4PA) showed us views of a VY2ZM's well equipped contest station on the northeast corner of Prince Edward Island with a great takeoff to Europe.

Following a dinner banquet with spouses, Bob Allphin (K4UEE) gave us a pictorial presentation of operating at the Lakshadweep hamfest.

Did I mention dinner? We had a banquet room full of folks for a wonderful dinner followed by door prizes and raffle drawings.



Both Icom and Yaesu donated rigs for a raffle. Raffle proceeds were accepted by Gary Dixon (K4MQG) on behalf of INDEXA and Rusty Epps (W6OAT) on behalf of NCDXF. Since SEDCO runs the conference as a non-profit event, some monetary awards from conference proceeds were also made to several organizations. As an example, Carl Smith (N4AA) received a stipend to permit him to continue to provide "Uncle DX's

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The Pileup

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The purpose of the association is to secure for the members the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons having a common interest in Amateur Radio.

Members of the CDXA shall adhere to "The Amateur's Code" as published from time to time in *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs*, and shall consist of those valid licensed amateur operators having an interest in promoting amateur radio. Long distance communications (DX) is of special interest to members of the association, but said interest is not a requirement of membership.

Dues are \$30 per year for those using the PacketCluster maintained by the Association, \$15 otherwise, payable each December. Dues are payable by check to the Secretary/Treasurer:

Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL
P. O. Box 577
Davidson, NC 28036

Address, telephone, and email address changes should be directed to the Secretary/Treasurer at the above address or via email at: cliffw@adelphia.net.

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Guides to DXing” as an insert for QSL managers the world over.

A number of door prizes were donated: Jim Miller (K4SQR) donated a number of \$75.00 gift certificates for purchase of Comtek products. Carl Smith donated a number of free subscriptions to QRZ DX or DX Magazine (recipient's choice). Ted and Itice Goldthorpe donated a 1200 watt emergency power generator—perfect for a small field day operation. And there were many others

Who were the winners? From CDXA, Robert McNeill (W4MBD) went home with a new antenna. Paul Sturpe (W3GQ) can now build that 4-square he'll be dreaming about when he redeems his gift certificate with Jim Miller. As I recall Ken Boyd (K4DXA) won a subscription from N4AA. Bob Allphin was the winner of a Yaesu FT-950 transceiver. There were so many prizes I can't remember who received them all, but I do know who won the Icom 756ProIII transceiver. It was yours truly!!



Will I go back to SEDCO? Yessiree—for the experience and to help refill the raffle pot for next year's transceiver winner.

Welcome New Member

The members of Carolina DX Association welcome **Barry Bridges (W4ILC)** of Indian Land, South Carolina to our ranks. Now with two members living in Indian Land (Joe Millard is the other one.) we hope to see both of them at an upcoming CDXA event. Welcome, Barry.

INDEXA Elects New Officers

If you've been a member of CDXA for any time at all, you know that CDXA takes its DXing seriously. Another group started about the same time as CDXA was the International DX Association or INDEXA. Gary Dixon, Murf Ratterree and Bill Jennings—all CDXAers—were among the early officers of this non-profit organization which lends financial support to selected DXpeditions. Regrettably, Murf passed away a few years back, but Bill Jennings has remained as Secretary-Treasurer of INDEXA for many years. Last year, Gary Dixon returned to an active role in INDEXA as its elected Vice President.

Elections this year resulted in a slate of DXers being elected that should sound familiar to you. They are:

Gary Dixon, K4MQG	President
John Scott, K8YC	Vice President
Bill Jennings, W4UNP	Secretary-Treasurer
Bob Allphin, K4UEE	Director
Nellie DeLazard, XE1CI	Director
Lynn Lamb, W4NL	Director
Franz Langner, DJ9ZB	Director
Carl Smith, N4AA	Director

Richard Grant, W9RG, retains his seat as a director elected for a three year term until 2008.

The leadership of INDEXA as now composed has five folks who are members of CDXA—K4MQG, K8YC, W4UNP, W4NL, and N4AA. In addition to those who are members of CDXA, you'll recognize all the current slate of officers as ones who are committed DXers. INDEXA should have a fine year under its new leadership.

CDXA Honor Roll Members

Every year or so *The Pileup* tries to take stock of how CDXA members are doing on the DXCC Honor Roll. In the past it has been a laborious task to try to find each and every CDXA member sprinkled through the list. With the help of a neat scripting program developed by our Contest Manager, Dick Williams, we believe we have a complete and accurate list of all current CDXA members who reside on the ARRL DXCC Honor Roll as of 9/17/2007. The list appears on Page 7 of this issue of the Pileup.

For those of you on the list, we offer you our highest regard for staying the course, because we all know that getting on this list requires hours of listening and superior operating skills.

CDXA Scores in 2007 ARRL International DX Phone Contest

Dick Williams, W3OA

The final results of this year's ARRL International Phone CW contest have been published. Listed below, in alphabetical order, are the CDXA entrants who scored in the top half of their class. The last column shows the entrant's place in his class in the geographic area shown and the number of entrants in that class from that area.

Callsign	Final Score	Area	Class	Place/No. in Class
K4SV	429,000	North Carolina	Single Op, High Power, All Bands	1/20
K8YC	114,192	Call Area 4	Single Op, Assisted, All Bands	25/51
KH6/AA4V	26,271	KH6	Single Op, Assisted, All Bands	1/1
KI4TZ	119,301	Call Area 4	Single Op, Assisted, All Bands	23/51
KZ2I	358,344	North Carolina	Single Op, High Power, All Bands	2/20
N1GC	110,754	North Carolina	Single Op, High Power, All Bands	7/20
N2TU	310,170	Call Area 4	Single Op, Assisted, All Bands	8/51
N4UH (SK)	193,500	North Carolina	Single Op, High Power, All Bands	4/20
W3GQ	969,387	Call Area 4	Multi-Single	1/4
W3OA	477,249	Call Area 4	Single Op, Assisted, All Bands	5/51
W4WTB	499,182	Call Area 4	Single Op, Assisted, All Bands	4/51
W4WNT	32,574	North Carolina	Single Op, Low Power, All Bands	4/10

ARRL publishes the Club competition results with the phone results. CDXA scored over 7.9 million points and placed ninth of the 23 US clubs in the Medium Category. Thirty logs were used in arriving at our score. We could have had up to 50 logs and still stay in the Medium Category. So we can increase our participation dramatically and stay in the same category. We plan more emphasis on the ARRL contests in 2008.

Lands' End Apparel Update

Dick Williams, W3OA

A Pileup article last March (<http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/Archives/cdxa0703.pdf>) described the process for ordering Lands' End apparel with the CDXA logo using the web site at <http://ces.landsend.com/CDXA>.

The article mentioned that using the web site was attractive because Lands' End had a special offer that removed the minimum order quantity for items with logos. Lands' End has extended this offer to January 31, 2008. It's unlikely we will do a group buy from Land's End as long as this offer is in effect. So I encourage members to place their own orders using the web site. Let me know if you have problems using the web site.

Annual Dues are Due!

Once a year we need to collect a little money in the form of dues to defray the expenditures of operating CDXA and to have some money in the till to support deserving DXpeditions. This fact of life is upon us again. Please help our Treasurer, Cliff Wagoner, have an easy time of it collecting our 2008 dues.

If you choose to not remit your dues now, please put a note on your calendar for December at the latest reminding you that CDXA dues are for a calendar year and are due by December 31. If you are a user of the CDXA AR-Cluster via telnet, digipeater, K4MD via RF or W4DXA via RF, your dues are \$30 per annum. If you don't use the cluster services, dues are \$15 per annum. Please remit directly to Cliff Wagoner at P.O. Box 577; Davidson, NC 28036.

CQWW, Phone, Starts Friday October 26 We Need Help with Our Club Score

Dick Williams, W3OA

Last year CDXA scored 25.6 million points in the CQWW Club Competition. That put us in 12th place among US clubs. But we were only 3.5 million points out of 8th place. If 2 or 3 more CDXA members had made 1000 or more CQWW QSOs we would have seen this significant improvement in our results. So every member can make a difference – CDXA needs your help!

There are a lot of articles in past Pileups to help you get ready. Last month's Pileup,

<http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/Archives/cdxa0709.pdf> describes our Contest Within a Contest, CWAC, and the marvelous prizes we are offering for your participation.

Page 7 of the September 2006, issue, <http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/Archives/cdxa0609.pdf>, has N4ZC's article, "CQWW Contest Information," discussing CQWW operating at the bottom of the solar cycle.

And in October 2003, <http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/Archives/cdxa0310.pdf>, W3GQ explained the intricacies of CQWW score keeping and the importance of working the "easy" North American zone multipliers, zones 3, 4, and 5, on each band. You can work either U.S. or Canadian stations to get these zones but it's better to work Canadians because you will also get QSO points for those contacts. US stations don't count for QSO points. But, your first contact with any US station on a band counts for a country multiplier. Paul included the following chart, originally from N4ZC, in his article. You can use it to check the boxes as you work these multipliers the first time to avoid missing any.

	160	80	40	20	15	10
USA						
Zone 3						
Zone 4						
Zone 5						

Of course, it helps to read the contest rules. They are at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/CQWWDXContestRules8407.pdf>.

And during the contest, be sure to work 4X0V everywhere you hear that station. Steve, AA4V, is half of a

two-man team trying to set a new multi-operator, two transmitter, record for Asia.

Please contact me if I can be of any help.

Dick Williams
w3oa@adelphia.net
(704) 658-0915

What's in a Contest?

Observations by Paul Ponak, AD4IE

The following comments were received from Paul Ponak, AD4IE, following the September VHF contest.

"I had a great, but abbreviated VHF contest this past weekend, and when I finished I had an idea for an article for the *Pileup*. A good idea? I'm not sure, but here are my thoughts.

The VHF contest was a great example of how a contest can be many things to many people. Contests aren't always about finishing on top of the heap, but rather about each individual gaining whatever pleasure he/she can from their participation.

Here are four examples of different "pleasure points" that I noticed as I mused about this weekend's contest.

- o Bill Fisher (W4GRW), and others, worked from a big-time contest station on a 5,000 foot high mountain seeking to reach out far and wide and achieve a contest-winning score.
- o Bill Turner (W4WNT) and his group worked with a smaller group at sea level on the North Carolina coast to give a rare gridsquare to all contesters that could hear them. This grid is about 99% water except for the ferry landing where Bill and his team operated.
- o I worked as a rover here in Charlotte (EM95) for a while and then moved to a small mountain at 3800 feet elevation (EM96) on a limited schedule.
- o Ben Antanaitis (WB2RHM) led the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society group of mostly new contesters as W4BFB from their club room in Charlotte.

Each group found something to like about radiosport. Whether a person has one hour or 48 hours to spend in a contest, skills are learned and satisfaction is achieved. There is nothing holding you back. Jump in, have fun."

Barbeque is Here Now!

Saturday, October 13 is the date of the Annual Barbeque. If you haven't made your reservation with Thomas Wright (twright@carolina.rr.com) as yet, you *may* have time, but don't be disappointed if it is too late. Thomas may be unavailable early in the week of October 8, so if you wish to still be included and can't reach Thomas, call Ted Goldthorpe or John Scott.

The event will be at Bob Burton's QTH beginning at 5:00PM on Saturday. Cost of the event is \$10, payable at the door. That will cover the cost of catering by Ric Porter. The "other" part of your entrance fee is your favorite dessert to share. CDXA will provide the soft drinks, wine and beer.

Coming from the Charlotte area take NC16 (Brookshire Blvd.) about nine miles from Uptown Charlotte to Holly-Huntersville Road. Go west on Holly-Huntersville Road (crossing over Rozelle's Ferry Road) about 1 mile to Country Lane. Turn right on Country Lane and look for 10420 Country Lane, right next to the 90 foot tower! If coming from the north down NC16, Holly-Huntersville Road is about 10 miles south of where NC73 crosses NC16.

(Note: If coming from well south of Charlotte, I-485 west loop is now complete from I-77 in the south all the way to NC16. When I-485 ends at NC16, turn left and Holly-Huntersville road is about ¾ mile to the north where you'll turn left and follow the same instructions as if coming from Uptown.) See you there!

Elections Coming In December

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting/holiday party is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2007 at Shanghai House Restaurant in Charlotte, NC. CDXA will elect its officers to serve for the 2008 calendar year. Thomas Wright has chosen to not stand for reelection as Vice President. All other officers have expressed a willingness to stand for reelection for 2008. Yet, anyone wishing to run for any office should make his desire known to the Nominating Committee Chairman, Wilson Caselli (K1MIJ) at WCaselli@gmail.com.

A review of the ByLaws by the CDXA Executive Committee does not specifically allow, nor does it deny voting by proxy at the annual meeting in election of officers or for other business matters. CDXA has grown to have a fairly dispersed membership since its founding. This dispersion of membership of CDXA may prevent members living far away from the location of the annual

meeting from expressing their voice in the operation of CDXA. While not specifically addressed in the bylaws, the Executive Committee feels it is in the spirit of the organization to permit voting by proxy for this year's annual meeting. Accordingly, the November 2007 Pileup will have a Proxy Form to vote your choice. (For the 2008 annual meeting, we expect to have some amendments to the bylaws to clarify proxy voting.)

Therefore, those wishing to seek an office or to nominate someone to an office should let Wilson Caselli know of your intentions as soon as possible. If you are placing someone's name in nomination, please make sure that person is willing to serve if elected.

How's the DXCC Challenge Going?

Here's how CDXA stacks up in the DXCC Challenge based on the listing as of October 7, 2007.

Callsign	Name	Challenge Count
K4CIA	Bill McDowell	2976
N4JJ	Jack Jackson	2952
K4MQG	Gary Dixon	2925
AA4V	Steve Reichlyn	2519
N2TU	Lou Dietrich	2371
W9IXX	Phil Florig	2197
N4PQX	Bob Burton	2122
K2SX	Dennis McAlpine	2074
KZ2I	Steve Sullivan	2010
N4TL	Tom Lewis	1767
K4VNY	Mac Murray	1750
K8YC	John Scott	1617
W4GMY	Charles Gray	1563
N4AA	Carl Smith	1524
WA3GNW	Bruce Gibson	1510
W4RDX	James Blythe	1502
K4SV	Dave Anderson	1411
K4MK	Kent Miller	1409
N1GC	Gary Colborne	1300
WA4DOU	Roy Lincoln	1270
W3OA	Dick Williams	1251
W3GQ	Paul Sturpe	1189
W4UFO	Nobby Mills	1160
KU4BP	Ed Swiderski	1142
AA4SC	Ric Porter	1120
KS4S	Nyles McKeithan	1117
N4HN	Thomas Wright	1109
N4TN	Don Jones	1030
W4ZV	Bill Tippet	1026
W4AG	Stan Dicks	1005

CDXA Members on the DXCC Honor Roll

Callsign	Name	Active DXCC Entities			
		Mixed	Phone	CW	RTTY
AA4S	Ron Bailey	337	337		
AA4V	Steve Reichlyn	337*	337 *	334	
K4BVQ	Frank Dowd	337*	334		
K4CIA	Bill McDowell	337	337	335	
K4DXA	Ken Boyd	337	337		
K4MK	Kent Miller	337*	337 *		
K4MQG	Gary Dixon	337	336	335	
K4ZA	Don Daso	337*			
K4ZO	Bruce Gragg	337*	330		
KZ2I	Steve Sullivan	337	336	329	
N2TU	Lou Dietrich	337	337	336	333
N4AA	Carl Smith	337			
N4TL	Tom Lewis	337	336		
N4XO	Dave Rawley	337			
W4LK	Lawrence Kirkland	337			
W4MBD	Robert McNeill II	337	337		
W4NL	Lynn Lamb	337			
W4VHF	Ted Goldthorpe	337*	337 *		
W4ZV	Bill Tippet	337			
K4CEB	Larry Sossoman	336		335	
W4AG	Stan Dicks	336			
W9IXX	Phil Florig	336		335	
K4MD	Joe Simpkins	335			
K4SI	Bob Cranford	335		331	
W3OA	Dick Williams	335	334		
W4UNP	Bill Jennings		335		
W4UW	Dick Genaille	335	335	329	
AA4R	Bill Parris	334	331	328	
N4PQX	Bob Burton	334	334		
W1WW	George Felber	334			
AK4N	Grady Robinson	333			
K2SX	Dennis McAlpine	333		330	
K4ESE	Neill Singletary	333			
N4JJ	Jack Jackson	333	333	332	
N4ZC	Roger Burt	333	330		
N4ZY	James H. Brown	333			
W3NC	Bill Riffle		333		
WA4MWX	Dick Talbert	333			
N4TN	Don Jones	332			
K4QVK	Arlin Wilson		331		
K2SD	Scott Douglass	329			
W4RDX	James Blythe	329			
AA4SC	Ric Porter	328			
W3GQ	Paul Sturpe	328			
W4CCW	Craig Willis	328			

* Includes QSLs in process at ARRL and/or claimed to be confirmed.

Based on ARRL Honor Roll list dated 9/17/2007.

The Back Page

Are you coming to the **CDXA Barbeque** on October 13? Need to make your reservation? Need to know how to get there? See Page 6.

Are you getting ready for **CQWW and CWAC in 2007**? Dick Williams offers you some help on Page 5.

We're nearing **dues** time again. You can be a big help to Cliff Wagoner if you remit between now and the end of December, 2007. It saves Cliff a lot of time if he doesn't have to ask you if you wish to remain an active member. See Page 4.

What? You still don't have a **CDXA shirt with embroidered logo**? Good news! Land's End has extended its "open order period" free of order minimums. You can get your very own shirt, jacket, hat or whatever with the CDXA Logo embroidered on it by ordering on-line at the Land's End website. Details on Page 4.

The **International DX Association (INDEXA)** recently completed its election of officers. You'll recognize several names as your fellow CDXA members. See P. 3.

The **Third Annual Southeastern DX and Contesting Organization Convention (SEDCO III)** is now a wrap. It was quite an event for CDXA members and spouses. Put this one on your calendar for 2008! See Page 1.

Want to know how we're doing? **DXCC Challenge award standings** are on Page 6. **DXCC Honor Roll standings** are on Page 7.

CDXA Annual Meeting/Holiday Party is scheduled for December 13. Elections of officers will be held at that time and proxy voting will be allowed. Candidates are needed. See Page 6.

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First Class Mail

See something wrong with your address label? Notify W3ZL at once, please.